

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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O R 031650Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2299

INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE ZFF

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USNATO

DIRNSA WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

CINCUSAFE

CINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

S E C R E T ANKARA 0917

EXDIS

MILITARY ADEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MARR, PFOR, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH BASE NEGOTIATIONS: IMPORT/EXPORT, ANNEXES, AND
CONSTRUCTION AND CHANGE ARTICLES

REF: A) STATE 25700, B) ANKARA 664, C) ANKARA 863

D) ANKARA 736

1. BECAUSE NEGOTIATION SESSION AT AMBASSADOR-SECRETARY
GENERAL LEVEL PREVENTED WORKING GROUP MEETING AND BECAUSE
OF NEED FOR RAPID PROGRESS ON ARTICLES STILL AT
AT THE WORKING GROUP LEVEL, MSA COUNSELOR GARDNER

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CALLED ON TURKISH WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN ASULA THIS

AFTERNOON (FEBRUARY 3) TO DISCUSS ANNEXES ARTICLE. IN LINE WITH REF A, GARDNER TOLD ASULA THAT U.S. WAS PREPARED TO ADD JOINT USE ARRANGEMENTS TO THE ANNEXES AND TO PROVIDE QUARTERLY REPORTS ON THE CHANGES OF THOSE ITEMS INCLUDED IN THE ANNEXES. GARDNER SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE U.S. WAS NOT RPT NOT PREPARED TO PROVIDE FULL INVENTORIES AS GOT HAD REQUESTED OF ALL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES BECAUSE IT WAS NOT RPT NOT CLEAR WHAT USE WOULD BE MADE OF THIS INFORMATION.

2. AFTER MAKING POINTS CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 9 REF B AND PARAGRAPH 3 REF A, GARDNER POINTED TO A NUMBER OF CURRENT PROBLEMS WITH CUSTOMS AND TGS WHICH SEEMED TO INDICATE THAT GOT PLANNED TO DETERMINE "REASONABLENESS" OF U.S. IMPORTS. GARDNER FURNISHED ASULA A COPY OF LETTER JUST RECEIVED BY JUSMMAT FROM TGS ASKING FOR U.S. PROJECTION OF ANNUAL POL REQUIREMENTS "IN ORDER TO DEVELOP A COMMENT AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE IMPORTATION REQUESTED IS CONSIDERED WITHIN REASONABLE LIMITS." GARDNER NOTED THAT TGS LETTER INDICATED THAT THIS INFORMATION WAS TO BE FURNISHED TO MFA WHICH WAS THE ACTION AGENCY.

3. ASULA STATED THAT THE TGS LETTER WAS A "MISTAKE". HE ASKED THAT JUSMMAT NOT RPT NOT REPLY IN WRITING BUT SIMPLY RESPOND ORALLY THAT THE MATTER WAS BEING HANDLED BY MFA. ASULA ADDED "I WILL TAKE CARE OF THIS" AND AGAIN STATED THAT THE GOT WOULD NOT RPT NOT ATTEMPT TO LIMIT U.S. IMPORTS. ASULA ATTRIBUTED OTHER PROBLEMS BEING EXPERIENCED AT INCIRLIK AIR FORCE BASE TO CHANGES IN LOCAL CUSTOMS PERSONNEL AND PROMISED TO HELP CLEAR UP THESE "MISUNDERSTANDINGS."

4. ASULA THEN STATED THAT MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG WAS MOST ANXIOUS TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE ANNEXES, IMPORT/EXPORT AND CONSTRUCTION AND CHANGE ARTICLES BEFORE THE MEETING IN WASHINGTON. AFTER FURTHER EXCHANGE ON REQUIREMENTS OF BOTH PARTIES, ASULA STATED HE WAS ALMOST CERTAIN HE COULD OBTAIN ELEKDAG'S APPROVAL TO FOLLOWING PACKAGE:

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A. TURKS WOULD DROP PARA 3 FROM ARTICLE VII (ANNEXES) LEAVING ONLY TWO PARAGRAPHS APPROVED ALREADY BY REF A.

B. PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE ON CONSTRUCTION AND CHANGE PROVIDING FOR GOT APPROVAL OF ALTERATION AND MODERNIZATION OF MAJOR ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT WOULD BE DROPPED.

C. U.S. WOULD AGREE TO INSERT IN IMPORT/EXPORT ARTICLE LANGUAGE GIVING GOT PRIOR APPROVAL FOR IMPORTATION OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION AND MAJOR ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT. ASULA PROVIDED GARDNER WITH TGS DEFINITION OF MAJOR ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT, WHICH WAS NOT RPT NOT ACCEPTABLE BUT WHICH ASULA SAID WAS NEGOTIABLE. ASULA SOLICITED U.S. DEFINITION AND CONFIRMED UNDERSTANDING THAT DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT WOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN AGREEMENT BUT WAS TO SERVE ONLY AS GUIDELINE IN COMPLYING LISTS OF SUCH EQUIPMENT IN ANNEXES.

D. ASULA DID NOT RPT NOT MENTION PARA 4 REGARDING REMOVAL FROM TURKEY OF MAJOR ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT REF D BUT HE MAY STILL INTEND THIS TO BE PART OF PACKAGE.

5. CONSIDERING THAT TGS CHIEF OF STAFF SANCAR HAS INSISTED ON PRIOR APPROVAL OF IMPORTATION OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION AND MAJOR ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT, WE BELIEVE THAT PACKAGE PRESENTED ABOVE IS PROBABLY BEST WE CAN OBTAIN HERE OR IN WASHINGTON. AS ALTERNATIVE WE MIGHT ATTEMPT TO SUBSTITUTE ARTICLE GRANTING GOT APPROVAL OF MODERNIZATION AND CHANGE OF MAJOR ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT FOR APPROVAL ON IMPORTATION OF THESE ITEMS (PER REF C) BUT WE ARE DOUBTFUL THAT TURKS WOULD ACCEPT THIS CHANGE IN THE PACKAGE.

6. WE SHOULD POINT OUT THAT ELEKDAG WILL NOT RPT NOT ACCOMPANY FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL TO WASHINGTON. HIS PLACE WILL BE TAKEN BY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS TEZEL, WHO HAS IN THE PAST PROVED TO BE MUCH MORE OF A HARDLINER AND WILL HAVE LITTLE KNOWLEDGE OF THE ARGUMENTATION WE HAVE PRESENTED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

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THIS, COMBINED WITH THE TECHNICAL NATURE OF THESE ARTICLES AND THE DIFFICULTY OF GETTING TGS APPROVAL OF CHANGES FROM WASHINGTON ARGUE STRONGLY FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE PACKAGE SET FORTH IN PARA 4 ABOVE PROVIDED REPEAT PROVIDED THAT DEFINITION OF MAJOR ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT ALONG LINES OF THAT IN ANKARA 736 AS MODIFIED BY PARA 7 REF C IS AGREED UPON. WASHINGTON'S COMMENTS REQUESTED SOONEST.
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